



# News Release

## WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT

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## National SBIR Road Tour Comes to Fairmont

Register today to secure your seat!

**FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA** — Join the U.S. Small Business Administration Thursday, May 14, for the SBIR Road Tour at Robert H. Mollohan Research Center in Fairmont, WV. The national event is brought to Fairmont by a group of local co-sponsors, including: SBA's West Virginia District Office, TechConnectWV, WV High Technology Foundation/INNOVA, WV Small Business Development Center, WV Score, WV Regional Technology Park, Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing, Chemical Alliance Zone, and Charleston Area Alliance.

The event is part of a national outreach effort to explore technology funding opportunities provided through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. Federal Program Managers representing the \$2.5 billion in early stage funding have been invited to attend a series of events alongside technology entrepreneurs and innovation supporters from across the United States. Agencies scheduled to attend include: USDA, NOAA, DOD-MDA, DOD-USAF, DOD-USN, DOE, DHS, NASA, NSF, and SBA.

SBIR and STTR grants allow businesses to conduct feasibility studies in Phase I (up to \$150,000) and development of a prototype in Phase II (up to \$1,000,000) for eventual commercialization in Phase III using non-federal dollars.

During the event, qualified West Virginia businesses receive one-on-one consultation and advice, potential subject matter expertise, help with matching ideas to Federal agency needs, training and assistance in developing proposals, and in certain cases, matching financial assistance for SBIR awards.

"I encourage small businesses interested in SBIR & STTR join us for this educational event," states Karen Friel, SBA West Virginia district director. "Small businesses can learn where to go for help in West Virginia with the application preparation and process to vie for funding through what's been called "America's Largest Seed Fund."

The Robert H. Mollohan Research Center is located at 1000 Galliher Drive in Fairmont. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the event is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event cost is \$30 and includes a box lunch. Registration is required in advance at <http://conta.cc/1woTKoJ>.

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